Application No.: 09/592,309

Office Action Dated: August 26, 2008

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for interactive communications over a

network among participants of a single conference at a plurality of locations, the apparatus

comprising:

a leader computer operatively connected to the network;

a computer readable storage device accessible by the leader computer, the

storage device including:

computer instructions for receiving and displaying information from the

network;

computer instructions for transmitting the information to a plurality of other

computers over the network, wherein said other computers each generally simultaneously

display the transmitted information; said computer instructions for transmitting comprising a

shared web browser to allow the leader to surf through the Internet and to cause said other

computers to follow the leader through the Internet, wherein various combinations of shared

web browsers can be used for the leader and the other computers; and

computer instructions for receiving additional information entered in a shared

web browser white board from at least one of the other computers over the network, wherein

said other computers and said leader computer each generally simultaneously display the

additional information in the shared web browser white board, and wherein the additional

information is entered by a user of a computer from the plurality of other computers to be

associated with the already displayed information; and

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computer instructions for receiving text-based conferencing information from

at least one of the other computers over the network, wherein said other computers and said

leader computer each generally simultaneously display the text-based conferencing

information in a shared web browser window separate from the white board, thereby not

altering the information displayed in the shared web browser and the shared web browser

white board,

wherein the leader and the other computers are participating in no more than one

conference simultaneously.

2. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the network comprises

the Internet.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said

computer instructions for receiving and displaying information from the network comprises a

web browser.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said

computer instructions for transmitting information to each of the other of said plurality from

the one of said plurality of computers comprises a presenter interface, the presenter interface

further comprising computer instructions for communicating with each of the other of said

plurality of computers and for causing the identical transmitted information to be generally

simultaneously displayed on said other computers, wherein the shared web browser displayed

by the lead computer and the other computers in the single conference are different based on

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the tool bar buttons on the other computers have different functions, wherein at least one tool

bar button is an interactive indicator.

5. (Previously Presented) A method of conducting a collaborative presentation

among a plurality of participants of a single conference situated at two or more locations,

wherein each of said participants has a computer operatively connected to a computer

network, the method comprising:

providing a website on the computer network for said participants to

obtain access to the collaborative presentation;

b) sending a message to each of said plurality of participants, the message

providing an identifier means for accessing the collaborative presentation;

c) providing information to be displayed on each of said participants'

computers during the collaborative presentation;

d) accessing the website according to the identifier means;

e) initiating the collaborative presentation by a leader of said plurality of

participants of a single conference presenting the information on the leader's

computer, wherein a main window of a display of the computer of each of the other of

said plurality of participants displays identical information generally simultaneously

as the presented information on the leader's computer;

f) interactively adding information associated with the presented

information by one of the other of said plurality of participants in a shared web

browser white board, wherein the computer of each of said participants generally

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simultaneously displays the additional information in the shared web browser white

board;

g) sharing a web browser of one of said plurality of participants with each

of the other of said plurality of participants of a single conference, so that the shared

web browser causes the plurality of participants to collectively surf through the

Internet according to web sites selected by the leader on the leader's computer; and

h) initiating the leader's designation of one of the other of said plurality

of participants as a new leader, wherein a presentation of information, or a selection

of a web site, on the new leader's computer causes the information presented, or web

site selected, on the new leader's computer to be generally simultaneously displayed

on the computer of each of the other of said plurality of participants.

6. (Original) The method of conducting a collaborative presentation among a

plurality of participants as recited in claim 5, further including the step of initiating a

telephone conference call while conducting the collaborative presentation.

7. (Original) The method of conducting a collaborative presentation among a

plurality of participants as recited in claim 5, wherein said identifier means comprises one or

more of a confirmation number, and a scheduled date and time for accessing the collaborative

presentation.

8. (Previously Presented) A method of conducting a collaborative presentation

among a plurality of participants of a single conference situated at two or more locations,

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wherein each of said participants has a computer operatively connected to a computer

network, the method comprising:

a) providing a website on the computer network for said participants to

obtain access to the collaborative presentation;

b) providing information to be displayed on each of said participants'

computers during the collaborative presentation;

c) providing means for said participants to access the website;

d) initiating the collaborative presentation by one of said plurality of

participants of the single conference presenting the information on the one of said

participants' computers, wherein a main window of a display of the computer of each

of the other of said plurality of participants of the single conference is identical and

generally simultaneously displays the information;

e) interactively adding information associated with the presented

information by one of the other of said plurality of participants in a shared web

browser white board, wherein the computer of each of said participants generally

simultaneously displays the additional information in the shared web browser white

board; and

f) initiating a text-based conferencing by one of the other of said plurality

of participants, wherein the computer of each of said participants generally

simultaneously displays the text-based conferencing information in a shared web

browser window separate from the white board, thereby not altering the information

displayed in the shared web browser and the shared web browser white board.

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9. (Previously Presented) A method of conducting a conference among a

plurality of participants of a single conference situated at two or more locations over a

computer network, the method comprising:

a) providing a website on the computer network;

b) providing computer instructions for said participants to access the

website via a computer having a display;

c) providing a shared browser interface for conducting the conference,

wherein various combinations of shared web browsers can be used for the leader and

the other computers;

d) operably connecting each said participants' computers of the single

conference such that the display of each of said participants generally simultaneously

displays the shared browser interface having identical information in a main window;

and

e) providing a white board to allow each participant to enter additional

information associated with the display of the shared browser interface, the additional

information being displayed in the white board, thereby not altering the display of the

shared browser interface.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 9 further including the

step of categorizing said participants into one of a presenter participant or an attendee

participant, such that the presenter participant's computer controls each of said attendee

participant's computers via the browser interface.

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11. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for conducting a single conference

among a plurality of participants situated at two or more locations over a computer network,

the apparatus comprising:

a) a website having a server computer on the computer network;

b) computer instructions for said participants to access the website via a

computer having a display;

c) a shared browser interface for conducting the conference, wherein

various combinations of shared web browsers can be used for the leader and the other

computers;

d) computer instructions for operably connecting each of said

participants' computers of the single conference such that the display of each of said

participants generally simultaneously displays the shared browser interface wherein

the browser has a main window which consists of identical information for each

participant of the conference; and

e) computer instructions providing a white board to allow each

participant to enter additional information associated with the display of the shared

browser interface, the additional information being displayed in the white board,

thereby not altering the display of the shared browser interface, and computer

instructions providing a text based communication interface in a separate shared

browser window, thereby not altering the display in the shared browser interface or in

the whiteboard, to allow each participant to initiate and participate in text-based

conferencing during the conference.

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12. (Previously Presented) The method of conducting a collaborative presentation

among a plurality of participants as recited in claim 5, further including the step of initiating

display of a list of all of the plurality of participants.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising

computer instructions for initiating designation in the leader computer of one of the plurality

of other computers as a replacement leader computer, wherein a presentation of information

on, or a selection of a web site in, the new leader computer causes the information presented

on, or web site selected in, the replacement leader computer to be generally simultaneously

displayed on the computer of each of the plurality of other computers, including the leader

computer, wherein the screen display in the interface is exchanged between leader computer

and the replacement leader computer.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising

computer instructions for transmitting comments or questions from any one or more of the

plurality of other computers to the leader computer.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising

computer instructions for assigning different color to the text-based conferencing information

received in the leader computer of each of the plurality of other computers to identify

origination of the text-based conferencing information.

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16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising

computer instructions for blocking the text-based conferencing information forwarded from

any one or more of the plurality of other computers.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising

computer instructions for terminating, from the leader computer, a connection of any one or

more of the plurality of other computers from the network.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for interactive communications over a

network among participants of a single conference at a plurality of locations, the apparatus

comprising:

a plurality of computers operatively connected to a network <u>participating in no</u>

more than one conference simultaneously, wherein each of the plurality of computers

includes a computer readable storage device comprising:

computer instructions providing user designation of any one of the plurality of

computers as lead computer;

computer instructions for receiving and displaying information from the

network; and

computer instructions for transmitting to other of the plurality of computers, as

lead computer, information received and displayed from the network, wherein the

other of the plurality of computers each generally simultaneously display the identical

transmitted information, as the lead computer, and wherein the computer instructions

for transmitting comprises a shared web browser allowing the other of the plurality of

computers to follow the leader through the Internet,

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wherein various combinations of shared web browsers can be used for the

leader and the other computers.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 18, wherein the

network comprises the Internet.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 18, wherein the

computer instructions for transmitting comprises a presenter interface that includes computer

instructions for communicating with each of the other of the plurality of computers and for

causing information to be generally simultaneously displayed on the other of the plurality of

computers.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 18, further

comprising computer instructions for receiving additional information entered in a shared

web browser white board from at least one of the other of the plurality of computers over the

network, wherein the other of the plurality of computers and the leader computer each

generally simultaneously display the additional information in the shared web browser white

board, and wherein the additional information is entered by a user of a computer from the

other of the plurality of computers.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, further

comprising computer instructions for receiving text-based conferencing information from at

least one of the other of the plurality of computers over the network, wherein the other of the

plurality of computers and the leader computer each generally simultaneously display the

text-based conferencing information in a shared web browser window separate from the

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white board, thereby not altering the information displayed in the shared web browser

window and the shared web browser white board.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 22, further

comprising computer instructions for assigning different color to the text-based conferencing

information received, the color identifying origination of the text-based conferencing

information.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 22, further

comprising computer instructions for blocking the text-based conferencing information

forwarded from any one or more of the other of the plurality of computers.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 18, further

comprising computer instructions for initiating designation of one of the other of the plurality

of computers as a replacement leader computer, wherein a presentation of information on, or

a selection of a web site in, the replacement leader computer causes the information

presented, or the web site selected, to be generally simultaneously displayed on each of the

other of the plurality of computers.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 18, further

comprising computer instructions for transmitting comments or questions from any one or

more of the other of the plurality of computers to the leader computer.

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27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 18, further comprising computer instructions for terminating, from the leader computer, a connection of

any one or more of the other of the plurality of computers from the network.